

Top Secret



DIRECTORATE OF
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Cambodia-Vietnam: Phnom Penh apparently has suspended major supply shipments to the Vietnamese Communists as part of its effort to limit Communist activities in Cambodia.

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[] an embargo on food and other supplies, which have been moved under the auspices of the Cambodian Army, has been in effect since early May. []

the army has placed strict controls on the Hak Ly trucking company--the main contractor for moving supplies to the Vietnamese Communists. The crack-down apparently was ordered by Chief of State Sihanouk.

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[] Although there have been localized disruptions in past years, the current ban seems to apply to deliveries sanctioned by the government in all border areas. The closure of the principal route through Kratie and Mondolkiri provinces appears to be particularly important.

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[] The embargo is almost certainly designed to induce the Communists to reduce their presence in Cambodia and support they are alleged to give local dissidents. High-level talks with the Communists

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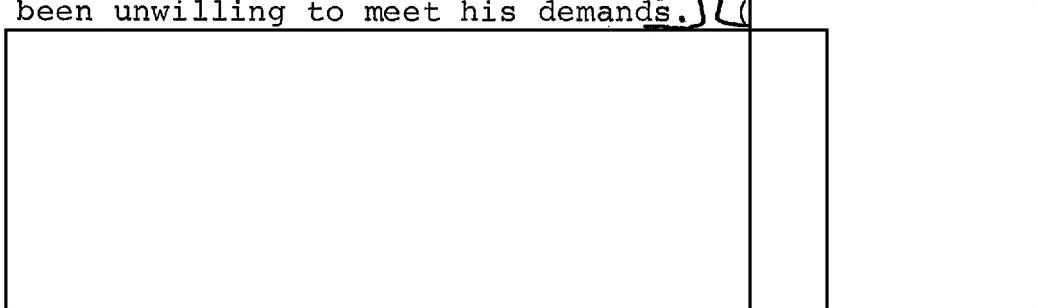
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have been under way in Phnom Penh for several weeks, and a resumption of supply deliveries is probably one major topic. Little is known about these talks, but Sihanouk's recent move toward resuming relations with the US suggests that the Communists have so far been unwilling to meet his demands.

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Peru: [Important changes in the government may be in the offing.]

[General Benavides' recent resignation from the cabinet--at a time when dissatisfaction with the Velasco government is spreading rapidly among students, the press, and the major economic interests--is contributing to the feeling that "anything can happen" during the next week or so.]

[Benavides now becomes one of a growing group of well-known and respected army officers, including former ministers Valdivia and Maldonado and ex-president Belaunde's minister of war General Di-anderas, who are outside the government and oppose many of its policies. These generals have some support in the army and from Peru's wealthy classes, and could form the leadership of a move against Velasco.]

[These men--particularly Benavides, whose presidential ambitions are widely known--could view the rapid growth of opposition to the Velasco government as their signal to move. Heavy-handed methods of dealing with relatively minor irritants have generated an outcry even from groups that have supported Velasco. The deportation of an editor, the forced closing of his publication, and the brutal crackdown on students at the Catholic University in Lima are merely the latest in a series of repressive acts that have upset the public. Business interests are concerned over the government's move toward more control of the economy, while even some of Velasco's closest advisers are being alienated by proposals such as the planned reorganization of the judiciary.]

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[Velasco has outmaneuvered his opponents in similar situations in the past, however, and probably still has considerable support, especially among leftists who believe that their interests would suffer if he were removed.]

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